

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46

(By Delegate Morgan, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Thompson, and Delegates Reynolds, Stephens, Sobonya, C. Miller, Ennis, Varner, Ellem, Perdue, Butcher, White, Moore, Mahan, Swartzmiller, Storch, Pethtel, Paxton, Rodighiero, L. Phillips, Frazier, Givens, Ferro, D. Poling, Martin, Barker, Stowers, Hall, Moyer, Canterbury, Staggers, Hunt, Skaff, Walker, D. Campbell, M. Poling, Fragale, Manchin, Marshall, Shaver, Perry, Brown, Guthrie, Boggs, Smith, Miley, Manypenny, Longstreth, Barill, Rowan, Wells, Hatfield, Poore, Talbott, Hamilton, Iaquina, Caputo, Fleischauer, Williams and Lawrence)

Requesting the Division of Highways to name the bridge on WV 2, spanning the Guyandotte River, .08 miles east of US 60, as the "Lt. Ronnie D. Ferrell Vietnam Veteran, Police Officer, Labor Leader, Public Servant Memorial Bridge".

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ronnie D. Ferrell was born on June 22, 1946, in Huntington, the son of Oscar Ferrell and Harriett Knight Ferrell; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell grew up in Cabell County and attended the Beverly Hills Church of Christ in Huntington; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1966, served in combat in Vietnam and was promoted to the rank of sergeant before being honorably discharged in 1966; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell worked as an electrician at INCO from 1968 to 2002 and served as shop steward, United Steel Workers "USW" Local 40 from 1990 to 2002, served as president of the Steel Workers Retirees "SOAR" from 2004 to 2008, he established the Memorial of Fallen Members for the 14 workers that have lost their

1 lives supporting their families while working at INCO. This
2 memorial was dedicated in 2001 by Congressman Rahall; and

3 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell is a Hall of Fame member of the
4 Southwestern District Central Labor Council AFL-CIO; and

5 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell was an officer with the
6 Barboursville Police Department from 1975 to 1986 and attained the
7 rank of lieutenant; and

8 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell was a member of the Board of
9 Directors for the Cabell Huntington Hospital from 2005 to 2009, was
10 a member of Minerva Lodge No. 13 AF&AM, the American Legion Post
11 177 of Barboursville and the VFW Post 9738 of Guyandotte; and

12 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell was instrumental in keeping the
13 names and memories of those who served their country well by
14 working for many years unofficially with the Legislature to secure
15 and place plaques on state bridges honoring and commemorating our
16 state residents who served in the United States Armed Forces ; and

17 WHEREAS, In his unofficial capacity Lieutenant Ferrell gathered
18 information, performed research on the state's bridges and our many
19 veterans and arranged for the ceremonies both at the Legislature,
20 including assisting the presence of family members, and at the
21 bridges themselves; and

22 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ferrell passed away on December 18, 2009 at
23 the Emogene Dolin Jones Hospice House having been under the care of
24 Dr. Gabriella Ballester; and

25 WHEREAS, It is fitting to honor Lieutenant Ferrell for his

1 service to his community, his state, his country and the invaluable
2 service to this Legislature by naming the bridge on WV 2, spanning
3 the Guyandotte River, .08 miles east of US 60, as the "Lt. Ronnie
4 D. Ferrell Vietnam Veteran, Police Officer, Labor Leader, Public
5 Servant Memorial Bridge"; therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the West Virginia Legislature:*

7 That the Legislature hereby requests the Division of Highways
8 to name the bridge on WV 2, spanning the Guyandotte River, .08
9 miles east of US 60, as the "Lt. Ronnie D. Ferrell Vietnam Veteran,
10 Police Officer, Labor Leader, Public Servant Memorial Bridge"; and,
11 be it

12 *Further Resolved,* That the Division of Highways is hereby
13 requested to have made and be placed signs identifying the bridge
14 as the "Lt. Ronnie D. Ferrell Vietnam Veteran, Police Officer,
15 Labor Leader, Public Servant Memorial Bridge"; and, be it

16 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates
17 forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the
18 Department of Transportation; to his wife, Cathy Mace Ferrell; his
19 son, Ronnie Dale "RD" Ferrell; his daughter, Beth Ingels and her
20 husband, Daniel Ingels; his sister, Charlotte Blake; his grandson,
21 Bryson Ingels; Silas Beam, whom he thought of as a grandson; Dr.
22 Gabriella Ballester and her staff at the Emogene Dolin Jones
23 Hospice House; the VFW Post 9738 of Guyandotte; United Steel
24 Workers "USW" Local 40; and to the Southwestern District Central
25 Labor Council AFL-CIO.